



Montana

Department of Labor and Industry

Commissioner's Office

Contact Casey Kyler-West, Communications Director  
TELEPHONE: (406)444-1520  
FAX: (406)444-1394  
e-mail: ckylerwest@mt.gov

P.O. BOX 1728  
HELENA, MT  
59624-1728

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## **State Workforce Investment Board Chairman Receives National Recognition**

**(Helena)** State Workforce Investment Board (SWIB) Chairman Dan Miles is selected as this year's recipient of the Jobs for America's Graduates (JAG) National Workforce Development Leadership Award.

Chairman Miles was nominated by friends and colleagues because of his efforts in helping high risk young people to succeed in school as well in pursuit of a career and/or postsecondary education through the support of JAG-Montana. "Today there is a growing concern that the young people who are entering the workforce are unprepared and as a result business will become less competitive and the overall economy may suffer. One of the State Workforce Investment Board's primary objectives is to diligently work to bring industry, education and government together in a collaborative effort to make Montana's workforce globally competitive in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century", said Chairman Miles.

Chairman Miles says the state program Jobs for Montana Graduates is a perfect vehicle for that effort; "Jobs for Montana's Graduates (JMG) is a perfect fit for the SWIB's objective. Confronting our high school dropout problem head on is a daunting challenge. JMG accepts that challenge year after year with a passion only truly committed individuals possess. And they are winning that fight with higher graduation rates year after year; the SWIB is impressed with their success and looks forward to our continued partnership", says Miles.

JMG is affiliated with JAG and serves approximately one-thousand students in 51 schools throughout Montana. Some of JMG's goals are to improve student's employability skills, help the student successfully complete high school, stimulate the student's initiative, teamwork and leadership skills, and help students develop a feeling of pride and accomplishment. JMG is jointly sponsored by the Governor's Office and the Office of Public Instruction and is administered by the Department of Labor and Industry.

The State Workforce Investment Board is responsible for advising the Governor on the creation, implementation and continuous improvement of a comprehensive statewide workforce development system, designed to train the maximum number of unemployed and underemployed Montanans as possible.

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For more information about the SWIB log onto: <http://swib.mt.gov/>

For more information about JMG log onto: <http://wsd.dli.mt.gov/jmg/jmg.asp>